



Washington
State Department of
Agriculture

DETERMINATION OF NONSIGNIFICANCE

Description of proposal **2020 Asian Giant Hornet Eradication Project. This programmatic SEPA involves the trapping, delineation of populations, and potential eradication of Asian Giant Hornet nesting sites using a appropriately labeled pesticides. This programmatic SEPA could have statewide implementation but initial projections are for trapping and tracking actions to occur in Whatcom and Skagit counties. Asian Giant Hornets were first identified by the Washington State Department of Agriculture in late fall 2019 in Whatcom county. These are the first known finds of this species in the United States. Asian Giant Hornets are invasive and prey upon honeybees as a primary food source, posing a significant threat to both pollinators and the crops they assist in growing. This is a ground nesting species of hornet that could cause significant loss of life, personal property, and commercial agriculture if allowed to become established.**

Proponent Washington State Department of Agriculture

Location of proposal, including street address, if any This programmatic SEPA covers actions in all Washington counties but specifically highlights possible work in Whatcom and Skagit counties based on current information.

Lead agency Washington State Department of Agriculture

The lead agency for this proposal has determined that it does not have a probable significant adverse impact on the environment. An environmental impact statement (EIS) is not required under RCW 43.21C.030 (2)(c). This decision was made after review of a completed environmental checklist and other information on file with the lead agency. This information is available to the public on request.

☐ There is no comment period for this DNS.

☐ This DNS is issued after using the optional DNS process in WAC 197-11-355. There is no further comment period on the DNS.

☒ This DNS is issued under WAC 197-11-340(2); the lead agency will not act on this proposal for 14 days from the date below. Comments must be submitted by **May 18, 2020**.

Responsible official Kelly McLain

Position/title Policy Advisor to the Director/Agency SEPA Lead Phone. 360.359.8091

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Date. May 4, 2020

Signature